

in the global war on terror. They are right to defend themselves in court against egregious claims from known terrorists.

We need these men on the front lines to continue battling those who are actively trying to kill Americans at home and abroad. If a court finds that they have done nothing wrong and have simply executed their mission, we should repay their legal fees and get them back into action as quickly as possible. That's exactly what my legislation does.

FORCE CHINA TO LET US COMPETE

(Mr. SCHAUER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SCHAUER. Mr. Speaker, I was outraged when I found that our U.S. Census bought promotional materials made in China, including this Census 2010 baseball hat. This hat is the poorest quality I have ever seen, and your tax dollars paid for it.

Recently, I read in the American Chamber of Commerce in China's 2010 White Paper that Chinese markets remain closed to American goods, even when U.S. companies manufacture in China.

What remains clear is that China has access to our government contracts, and we don't have access to theirs. So it's time to stop buying Chinese goods with our U.S. tax dollars.

I have in my hand a quality hat made in America by Unite Here workers, and a lousy, Chinese-made hat in the other hand. Where do you want your tax dollars going? Which jobs should your tax dollars support?

Support my bill, H.R. 5312, to force China to let our people and our businesses compete.

AMERICANS ASK, WHERE ARE THE JOBS?

(Mr. GINGREY of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, Washington just isn't listening to what the American people want. Take a look at our state of affairs. Our national unemployment rate is close to 10 percent. We have almost \$13 trillion in debt, and our budget deficit for this fiscal year 2010 is projected to be \$1.8 trillion. And Americans keep on asking, where are the jobs? Indeed, where are the jobs?

Mr. Speaker, Republicans stand ready to get spending under control and to pass legislation that does create jobs. Yet the Democratic majority refuses to move forward with even the first order of business in getting our fiscal House in order, and that business is passing a budget. Foregoing a budget resolution this year would be a failure of one of our most basic responsibilities and the first time that that's hap-

pened since the current budget rules were put in place back in 1974.

Mr. Speaker, we need to rein in Federal spending this year, and the first step in that process is passing a fiscally responsible budget, and I urge my Democratic colleagues to do just that.

CONTINUING ON ROAD TO RECOVERY

(Mr. CARNAHAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, 8 years of failed economic policies under the Bush administration left a deep economic hole for the new Obama administration, but three things are clear: It will take some time to dig out; we have made steady progress; and there is much more to do.

But yesterday the Joint Economic Committee released its report showing progress with new jobs created and decreasing unemployment in my home State of Missouri. Now is not the time to reverse direction. We must remain focused on the real measure of recovery, and that's jobs. We need to move beyond bickering to real solutions that will put real people back to work.

I urge my colleagues to once again take up the job-creating America COMPETES bill that would strengthen U.S. scientific and economic leadership, support employers, and create jobs through investments in science, innovation, and education.

We can't let partisan gridlock hold us back while countries pass us by to invent, build, and sell us the technology that will power the next century. Ensuring the U.S. competes globally is a commonsense way of creating jobs.

DEVELOP A PATH TO FISCAL SOLVENCY

(Ms. JENKINS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JENKINS. As a CPA, I've counseled folks who are in debt. The first step is to acknowledge the problem. The second step is to develop a budget that maps out the path to solvency.

Our children, who stand to inherit a national debt level that is unsustainable, should require Congress to adopt a similar approach. Apparently, the majority is afraid to admit that Washington has a spending and borrowing problem, and they plan to avoid even discussing a budget. In 2008, then-candidate Obama told Joe the Plumber, "We need to share the wealth."

I was concerned then, but now I am appalled, because who are we sharing the wealth with? The Chinese. Sending nearly a trillion dollars to foreign nations to pay debt service on reckless spending is not what our kids deserve. Our kids deserve a Congress that will do their job and make the tough deci-

sions to get our fiscal House in order, which starts by developing a responsible budget.

2011 SOLAR DECATHLON

(Ms. HIRONO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I recently met a team from the University of Hawaii, one of 20 collegiate teams selected to build an energy efficient, solar-powered house as part of the Solar Decathlon, an international competition sponsored by the Department of Energy.

In the fall of 2011, the D.C. National Mall will transform into a zero-emission solar village built by the next generation of architects and engineers. These houses will be attractive and affordable, demonstrating an array of innovative, energy technologies.

Designed for a tropical climate, the Hawaii model will be built using a bio-based polymer and the house will be buoyant enough to float in the event of a flood. A new generation of leaders in the clean-energy economy will emerge from programs like these, and I look forward to walking through the solar village next year.

The Solar Decathlon is one example of harnessing American ingenuity to meet the energy challenges of the 21st century. Let us continue to support programs like these that empower a new generation of thinkers to engineer a clean-energy future.

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WHY 20 PERCENT OF GDP?

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, in a year when, for the first time in memory, the Pelosi Congress is failing to adopt a budget, I am proud to cosponsor a spending limit amendment that would place a cap on Federal Government spending.

Tax rates go up and down, tax laws change, the economy changes; but in the past six decades, Federal tax receipts have stayed consistent at nearly 20 percent of GDP. In a Wall Street Journal op-ed last Monday, Economist David Ranson explained this effect. He notes: "The tax base isn't just something you can kick around at will. It represents a living economic system that makes its own collective choices." In other words, we can't fight against the natural level of maximum taxation. If we raise taxes, we won't collect enough to reduce our deficit, and we will restrain economic growth.

We have been living outside of our means, borrowing and spending and bailing out for far too long. The Spending Limit Amendment, based on economic reality, is a sensible measure that will keep our government in check.

MEMORIAL DAY SALUTE TO MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM

(Ms. CASTOR of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent MacDill Air Force Base back home in Tampa, Florida, where the mission partners include the 6th Air Mobility Wing, Special Operations Command, and Central Command. Now, the Democrats will bring the defense bill to the floor of the House this week to provide them with the tools they need to be successful in their missions.

The defense bill will follow a strong commitment by this Congress under Democratic leadership to our military families and our military personnel:

One, robust pay raises for our military over the past 3 years.

Two, the new GI Bill, where Democrats restored the promise to these brave men and women who have served this country in Iraq and Afghanistan for a full 4-year scholarship.

Jobs for veterans. The Recovery Act provided tax incentives to businesses who are sending soldiers off to war.

And a historic veterans budget that the American Legion hailed as a "cause for celebration" because Democrats led a bipartisan effort to adopt the largest funding increase in veterans health care and other services in the history of the VA.

"BUDGET WOES? JUST DON'T PASS ONE"

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, the headline in the Los Angeles Times read, "Budget Woes? Just don't pass one." Now that's a novel idea.

There must be all kinds of problems that Congress can ignore. I think that we can apply it to a number of things that are happening right now: Oil spill woes? Think about it tomorrow. Fannie and Freddie problems? Maybe a solution next year. Entitlement spending out of control? Just don't think about it. It's too bad our constituents don't have the same luxury of ignoring their budgets.

The national debt currently is \$12.36 trillion. The President's budget calls for \$3.8 trillion in Federal spending, which will put the deficit at \$1.6 trillion. These are numbers the majority wants to keep quiet. In my mind, it would behoove the majority to take a look at the spending and take an honest look at how to get it under control. Instead, the President has asked for the power of the line-item veto. It would seem to me that we could do a good job with a red pencil if the majority would allow it. But that would be real work right now, and apparently we don't do that.

AMERICAN JOBS AND CLOSING LOOPHOLE ACT

(Ms. KILROY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KILROY. Mr. Speaker, in central Ohio the economy is growing stronger, but we must continue to create an environment that encourages prosperity. The American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act will do just that; it will close loopholes that give outsourcing a benefit and will provide jobs and tax relief for businesses and working families.

For too long unscrupulous corporations have outsourced American jobs, sending them overseas, sticking American taxpayers with the bill. It's time to close that tax loophole that encourages that behavior and demand accountability.

This bill also will close another tax loophole and make Wall Street fund managers pay a fair tax rate on their income, just like my central Ohio constituents do. It will make the oil companies pay for the gulf oil cleanup, not American taxpayers. And it will rebuild our crumbling infrastructure with Build America bonds. Also giving our students summer jobs, promoting research and development with a research and development tax credit.

H.R. 4223, the American Jobs and Closing Loophole Act, is deserving of our support. I encourage my colleagues to vote for it.

WE NEED A CONGRESS AMERICANS CAN COUNT ON

(Mr. GOHMERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GOHMERT. Well, we were told that Don't Ask, Don't Tell was something we would take up once we had a study done because that's the only thing that would be fair to our men and women in the service. Now we're told the study will be finished at the end of the year; we're going to take up the bill now.

We were told by the Supreme Court it was okay to have a cross in the Mojave Desert, but thieves went out there, took it out after they lost, and now the Park Service is working with the thieves, perhaps unwittingly, to keep it from happening.

The Auto Task Force met behind closed doors, turned bankruptcy law upside down, made secured creditors unsecured, owned the place, took property without due process, turned the Constitution upside down. The Congress and the courts did nothing. No wonder employment is going down and unemployment is going up; businesses can't trust this government. It is time to get back to a body that deals honestly, with integrity and with a consistency the country and businesses and jobs can count on.

JOBS ARE PRIORITY

(Mr. ELLISON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the importance of continued support for jobs for Americans.

When America faced massive unemployment in the 1930s, our government stepped up with the WPA and the CCC. It's time to continue that drive, as the Democratic Congress has been doing without much help from our Republican colleagues.

The fact is that local governments have been hardest hit in the area of job cuts. Local governments have lost over 140,000 jobs in 2008 and 2009, and the number keeps growing. Another 53,000 jobs will be lost by July 1 if we don't act. Another 128,000 will be lost by fiscal year 2011 if we don't act.

So, Mr. Speaker, I'm asking our colleagues to step forward for people who need to do work. This summer we are looking at young people not having enough jobs, and we need this Congress to act. We've seen job creation, we've seen job growth, we've seen 290,000 jobs created last month; but this drive needs to stay alive. The Democratic Caucus is committed to it. We hope our Republican colleagues join us, but jobs must continue to be the first order of business.

DEMOCRAT BUDGET FAILURE

(Mr. CARTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, the stock market, this very minute, is dropping like a rock over the financial collapse of Greece and the pending failure of other Euro nations. They are bankrupt from unsustainable government spending under the same programs the Democrats in this body are now forcing on America.

With an overwhelming majority in the House and Senate and a Democrat in the White House, they can't even pass a budget. Heck, they're not even proposing one. Mr. Speaker, the House majority has proven it can't govern; and if we don't make a change, America will join Greece in national bankruptcy.

RESTORING FINANCIAL SECURITY

(Mr. DEUTCH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, there is a lot of talk in Congress about restoring financial security for the American people. This week everyone in this body has a chance to turn their words into action. This week, we will have the opportunity to vote to preserve access to doctors for millions of Americans enrolled in Medicare.

No senior in Florida's 19th District or anywhere in America should see the